

Detransition & 2SLGBTQA+ Communities

The **Re/DeTrans Canada** study interviewed 28 individuals from across Canada about their experiences of stopping, shifting, or reversing a gender transition. Among participants, 64% were assigned female at birth and 36% were assigned male at birth. 75% were white, 7% were Jewish and white, and 18% were multi-racial (Black, Indigenous, Arab, South Asian, Latinx).

All of the participants identified within the 2SLGBTQA+ community.

We analyzed participants' descriptions of their complex relationships within 2SLGBTQA+ communities and found the following four themes:

(1) Experiences of detransphobia; (2) Socio-political context of detransition; (3) Alienation; and (4) Community solidarity

1

DETRANSPHOBIA

[Trans] people that I know who have been out for a long time, are usually pretty comfortable in their own skin...Whereas, in the few instances where I've crossed paths with people who are early transitioning, [my detransition] seems to be more problematic for them... **This has happened online, too, where [trans] people will say that straight cis people who are on the right are going to see [detransition] as proof that transitioning is wrong. And so, we shouldn't detransition. Or that we weren't ever really trans or that kind of thing.** (Participant 9)

2

SOCIO-POLITICAL CONTEXT

I worked in the queer and trans community, and I felt like I had to [detransition] really quietly, because heaven forbid someone who's doing queer education says that they regretted anything, then that would de-platform the whole movement... **There's always someone waiting to pounce on it and say "Oh, see, trans people are fake, they're just faking it."** (Participant 12)

3

ALIENATION

Basically, everybody's cut me out. There's like four people that I'm still friends with that I still talk to. Most of them, I trigger their dysphoria and invalidate them by existing... **I haven't found community within [the 2SLGBTQA+ community centre], any of those spaces.** (Participant 10)

4

COMMUNITY SOLIDARITY

I think the biggest thing I would want the public to know is **just because someone you know detransitions doesn't make the trans community any less valid.** And visa versa. Like you know, we're all human. We all deserve rights. (Participant 20)